YALI, PASS VALLEY

Yali, Pass Valley dialect
POP: +/- 5,000
LOC: Central Highlands east of Angguruk and northwest of Naltya

VILLAGE(S):
Pass Valley -- 2500
Landikma -- 1500
Apahapsili -- 1500
- Silzer & Heikkinen 1984:57.

Three distinct dialects of the Yali language have been identified: the Pass Valley dialect spoken by 5000 people in the northern extremity of the Yali area around Abenaho, in Pass Valley, Landikma and Apahapsili; the Angguruk dialect spoken by 15000 people in the area known as Yalimo; and the Ninia dialect spoken by 9500 of the southern watershed (Silzer & Heikkinen 1984).

YALI, PASS VALLEY (WESTERN YALI, PASS VALLEY, ABENDAGO) ...
5,000 or fewer (1988 SIL). Central highlands, east of Angguruk and northwest of Nalgya, Jayawijaya, Kurulu, and Kurima. ... Dialects: PASS VALLEY, LANDIKMA, APAHAPSILI. Distinct from Yali of Ninia and Yali of Angguruk, but related. ...
- Grimes 1996.

YALI, PASS VALLEY (WESTERN YALI, PASS VALLEY, ABENDAGO) ...
5,000 or fewer (1988 SIL). Central highlands, east of Angguruk and northwest of Nalgya, Jayawijaya, Kurulu, and Kurima. Linguistic affiliation: Trans-New Guinea, Main Section, Central and Western, Dani-Kwerba, Southern, Ngilik-Nduga. Dialects: PASS VALLEY, LANDIKMA, APAHAPSILI. Different from Yali of Ninia and Yali of Angguruk, but related. ...

(YALY)
? [speakers]
Dialects: ?
Villages: ?
- Voorhoeve 1975f:46.

The terms Yali and Yalîmû are used by the Grand Valley Dani to designate their (north-) eastern neighbours. These in turn call their eastern neighbours Yali people. The name Yali thus relates to those living to the east. The term is now being used to designate the society living east of the Grand Valley, and the Yali themselves have accepted this designation.
In Yalîmû (the place of the Yali) there are two separate language areas. The first is called North-Ngalik (Bromley 1967) and it belongs to the Dani family. It is spoken in the Landi, Habilik and Upper Yahûlî valleys north of the range, and in the Kwik, Heluk, Seng and Solo valleys south of the central range. The dialects are mutually intelligible. The second language area, further to the east, is the Goliath (or Mek) language family. It is spoken in the Erok, Thai, Saynme, Eyme and other valleys further east and south of the range, and in the Eipo, Tap, Naliki, Ilup and Hîne valleys as well as in some villages east of the lower Yahûlî and along the Ubahak river, all north of the range.


The area in which [the Yali] live extends from 139°15' to 139°30' eastern longitude and from 4°00' to 4°20' southern latitude. Tha Ubahak, Yahûlî, Sîbî and Pîndeng rivers are the source rivers of the Yahûlî. Each of the valleys constitutes a separate region...


The term Yali designates the people who populate the valleys of the northern watershed of the central Jayawijaya mountain range to the north of the Grand Valley of the Balim river in Irian Jaya. It also applies to those who inhabit four valleys of the southern watershed of the same range, whose rivers, the Kwik, Heluk, Seng and Solo, feed the Balim river near where it leaves the mountains and begins its winding course across Irian Jaya's southern lowlands.


Most published material on the Yali to date has focused on those who occupy a specific area of the northern watershed which is comprised of the Yahuli and Ubahak river systems known as Yalimo 'place / of the Yali'. It is located roughly between 139°15' and 139°30' east longitude and 4° and 4°20' south latitude (Koch 1967:41, and Zöllner 1977:16-18).

Nevertheless, the more extensive Yali grouping was earlier identified as a linguistic unit, one of the three sub-families of the greater Dani family. It is designated by the term, North Ngaliik (Bromley 1967:298). This was the name given by many lower Grand Valley Dani speakers to those living 'outside the rim' or 'outside the ranges' that enclose this wide, isolated, highland valley (Bromley 1977:3-9). The term Yali is not a self-appellation, but is one of two terms which those now so designated use of people in opposite directions on the east-west trade route. Yali means 'those to the east' and is contrasted with Hupla, 'those to the west'.

Three distinct dialects of the Yali language have been identified: the Pass Valley dialect spoken by 5000 people in the northern extremity of the Yali area around Abenaho, in Pass
Valley, Landikma and Apahapsili; the Angguruk dialect spoken by 15000 people in the area known as Yalimo; and the Ninia dialect spoken by 9500 of the southern watershed (Silzer & Heikkinen 1984).


... The northern boundary which separates this southern branch of the Yali from its Yalimo neighbours is part of the central range of Jayawijaya mountains ... The eastern boundary of the southern Yali area is a high mountain spur separating the Solo valley from the Indol valley which is inhabited by the eastern neighbours -- traditionally referred to as Yali but now known as Kimyal. The western border is the west side of the Kwik valley where there is considerable intermarriage with their western neighbours -- members of an offshoot of the lower Grand Valley Dani. In the border villages of east / and west, there is noticeable bilingualism or diglottalism. This is not surprising in the west, since Hupla and Yaliu are both closely related members of the Greater Dani family (Bromley 1967:289, 303). However, the Kimyal language in the east belongs to the Mek languages.

* (ABENAHO)

... the Abenaho language, ... is a member of the Yali -- in Bromley's terminology North Ngalik -- group of languages, ...
- Fahner 1979:3.

After filling out the word list for the Abenaho Yali Language, I calculated the following percentages of cognation: Angguruk and Abenaho share 88%, Abenaho and Mid Grand Valley 74%, Abenaho and Pyramid 65% ...
- Fahner 1979:3.

... the Abenaho valley is the westernmost territory in which the Yali language is spoken. In the adjacent valleys other languages are used: in the Ilugwa area one finds a language which can be considered a member of the Western Dani sub-family; it is nearly identical with the Wodlo dialect [Bromley 1961:10]. South of Abenaho, in the Wadlanggu valley, a Grand Valley Dani dialect is spoken, which is very similar to the dialect named Lower Kibin by Bromley [1961:11]. The people of Landikma, also living in the Pass-valley, use a Yali dialect which is slightly different from the Yali spoken in Abenaho ... In the valley east of Abenaho, one finds another Yali dialect, mentioned as Kapia or Mid-Hablifoeri Dani by Bromley, but more recently termed Apahapsili after a local name [Bromley 1961:16-17].

Up until recent history, i.e. roughly until the mid sixties, the communities of Landikma and Abenaho were separated by traditional enmity. The Yali's of Abenaho, however, were connected with the Dani people in the Ilugwa and Wadlanggu valleys by ties of family and friendship; there must have been a substantial influence from Dani of [sic] Abenaho Yali because of these relationships ... Investigations so far do not indicate
that the influence was mutual.

The impact of interlingual contact is observable in both phonology and morphology. As for phonology, some Dani phones became mixed in with Yali phonemes in Abenaho ...

The term Yali is now in general use for the group [of] languages spoken in the valleys north-east from the Grand (or Balim) Valley. Originally "Yali" stood for "people across the ranges in the east"; the term was applied by Grand Valley Danis to the population known now as Yalis, but also by the nowadays Yalis themselves to their eastern neighbours, which speak a language of a quite different type (cf. Bromley (1966) p. 307 on the so-called "Goliath-Languages"). In the former times the inhabitants of the north eastern valleys named themselves with local names, but never with the term Yali ...
- Fahner 1979:212, n. 11.

* WELAREK
[shown as Dani language]
- Heeschen 1992:466 (map).
YALI, PASS VALLEY dialect 5,000 Great Dani (Silzer & Wilson 1989)
PASS VALLEY -- d of YALI 5,000 Wilson 1989
PASS VALLEY -- d of YALI Silzer & Clouse 1991
YALI, PASS VALLEY = NIPSAN Comrie 1992z
YALI, PASS VALLEY 5,000 Ngalik-Nduga (Grimes 1996, 2000)

PASS VALLEY = NIPSAN Comrie 1992z
PASS VALLEY = PASS VALLEY YALI

YALI Fahner 1979, Wilson 1989
YALI Great Dani (Silzer & Heikkinen 1984, Silzer & Zöllner 1988)
YALY = YALI
YALİMÛ = YALI/GOLIATH/EIPO

YALI, WESTERN = PASS VALLEY YALI

ABENAHOB Yali (Fahner 1979)
ABENAGO = NIPSAN Comrie 1992z
ABENDAGO = PASS VALLEY YALI Grimes 1996, 2000

APAHAPSILI Fahner 1979 (Bromley)
APAHAPSILI -- d of PASS VALLEY YALI Grimes 1996, 2000

HABLIFOERI, MID = APAHAPSILI Fahner 1979
KAPIA = APAHAPSILI Fahner 1979

WELAREK = PASS VALLEY YALI Dani (Heeschen 1992) [cf S&C]
Abenaho -- PASS VALLEY YALI Wilson 1989
Apahapsili -- PASS VALLEY YALI Wilson 1989

LANDIKMA -- d of PASS VALLEY YALI Grimes 1996, 2000

Landikma -- YALI [PASS VALLEY] Fahner 1979
Landikma -- PASS VALLEY YALI Silzer & Heikkinen 1984, Wilson

PASS VALLEY -- d of PASS VALLEY YALI Grimes 1996, 2000
Pass Valley -- NORTH NGALIK Mitton 1983
Pass Valley -- PASS VALLEY YALI Silzer & Heikkinen 1984, Wilson

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